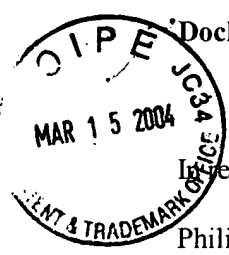


Image



Docket No.: 713-597

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor Application of

Philip John MERRIFIELD

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/076,139

Filed: February 15, 2002

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: Confirmation No. 8844
:
: Group Art Unit: 1762
:
: Examiner: B. Pianalto

For: IMPROVEMENTS IN AND RELATING TO SPRAY GUNS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

By Official Action mailed February 18, 2004 restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 USC 121:

- I. Claims: 1-16 and 19-21, drawn to an apparatus, classified in class 118, subclass 300.
- II. Claims: 17 and 18, drawn to a method, classified in class 427, subclass 421.

In response, Applicant hereby elects *Invention I* for examination in this case, upon which claims 1-16 and 19-21 are readable. Early examination on the merits is courteously solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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